

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) An illuminant for a discharge lamp, comprising:
a housing constructed from a cylindrical transparent material having equal inner radii at both open ends;

a pair of discharge electrodes inserted from both ends of said housing into said housing and placed to oppose each other separated by a predetermined gap; and

sealing spacers each of which has an outer radius approximately equal to or slightly smaller than the inner radius of said housing and onto which respective electrode axis of each discharge electrode is fixed, the fixing position of said sealing spacer within said housing being adjustable along the axial direction of said housing; wherein

said sealing spacers are fixed to said housing at a condition where a discharge gas fills the discharge chamber defined by said housing and said sealing spacers, and at positions where the discharge electrodes are separated by a predetermined gap,

wherein a concave section that is adapted for loading an additive material is formed on said discharge electrode.

2. (Currently Amended) An illuminant for a discharge lamp, comprising:
a housing constructed from a cylindrical transparent material having equal inner radii at both open ends; and

a pair of discharge electrodes each of which has an outer radius approximately equal to or slightly smaller than the inner radius of said housing, said discharge electrodes having been inserted from both ends of said housing into said housing and having their fixing position within said housing adjustable along the axial direction of said housing; wherein

said discharge electrodes are fixed within said housing, with a discharge gas filling the discharge chamber defined by said housing and said discharge electrodes and at positions where said discharge electrodes are separated by a predetermined gap,

wherein a concave section that is adapted for loading an additive material is formed on said discharge electrode.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) An illuminant for a discharge lamp according to claim 1, wherein a projecting section for discharge start-up is provided on said discharge electrode.

5. (Previously Presented) An illuminant for a discharge lamp according to claim 2, wherein a projecting section for discharge start-up is provided on said discharge electrode.